

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A program recording apparatus which obtains an electric program guide and receives and records a desired program by using the obtained electric program guide, comprising:

a setting unit operable to set recording of the desired program based on at least a broadcast time period and a broadcast channel;

a searching unit operable to search a character string in a predetermined region of the electric program guide including the set broadcast time period and broadcast channel, and to discriminate a number sequence subsequent to a predetermined word included in the character string when the predetermined word is searched; and

a controller operable to change the set broadcast time period to a new time period when the a-predetermined word is included in the character string, wherein the new time period has a termination point later than a termination point of the set broadcast time period and the termination point of the new time period is determined based on the value of the discriminated number sequence;

~~the searching unit being operable to discriminate a number sequence subsequent to the predetermined word when the predetermined word is searched, and~~

the controller being operable to time-extend the a termination point of the set broadcast time period in response to the a-value of the discriminated number sequence, in a range not overlapping another set broadcast time period, wherein the controller does not change the set broadcast time period when the termination point of the new time period is later than a starting point of the another set broadcast time period.

2. (previously presented) A program recording apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the predetermined word is "extension".

3. (canceled)

4. (currently amended) A program recording apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the controller is operable to time-extend the termination point of the set broadcast time period ~~is time-extended~~ by a predetermined amount when the number sequence subsequent to the predetermined word cannot be discriminated.

5. (currently amended) A program recording apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the controller does not change the set broadcast time period to the new time period when the new time period overlaps with the another set broadcast time period.

6. (previously presented) A program recording apparatus according to claim 5, wherein, when the set broadcast time period is not changed, the controller causes a display to be made indicating that the set broadcast time period was not changed in addition to a display of the desired program set for recording.

7. (presented previously) A program recording apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the setting unit further sets the change from the set broadcast time period to the new time period when the predetermined word is included in the character string.

8. (previously presented) A program recording apparatus according to claim 7, further comprising a display for

displaying a logo indicating that the change from the set broadcast time period to the new time period has been set.

9. (previously presented) A program recording apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the controller changes the set broadcast time period to the new time period just before the desired program recording starts when the predetermined word is included in the character string.

10. (previously presented) A program recording apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the controller does not change the set broadcast time period to the new time period when the program recording apparatus would have an insufficient capacity at the new time period.

11. (currently amended) A program recording method for receiving and recording a desired program, the recording of which is set based on at least a broadcast time period and a broadcast channel, the method comprising:

obtaining an electric program guide;

in a situation when the desired program recording is set, searching a character string in a predetermined region of the electric program guide including the set broadcast time period and broadcast channel, wherein the searching includes discriminating a number sequence subsequent to a predetermined word included in the character string when the predetermined word is searched;

determining whether to change the set broadcast time period to a new time period when the a-predetermined word is included in the character string and based on whether a_T;

~~the searching including discriminating a number sequence subsequent to the predetermined word when the predetermined word is searched, and~~

time-extendeding a termination point of the set broadcast time period, which is determined in response to the a-value of the discriminated number sequence, is in a range not overlapping another set broadcast time period, wherein the new time period has a termination point later than a termination point of the set broadcast time period and the termination point of the new time period is determined based on the value of the discriminated number sequence,

wherein the set broadcast time period is not changed when the termination point of the new time period is later than a starting point of the another set broadcast time period.

12. (previously presented) A program recording method according to claim 11, wherein the predetermined word is "extension".

13. (canceled)

14. (currently amended) A program recording method according to claim 11, wherein the termination point of the set broadcast time period is time-extended by a predetermined amount when the number sequence subsequent to the predetermined word cannot be discriminated.

15. (currently amended) A program recording method according to claim 11, wherein the step of changing the set broadcast time period to the new time period is not carried out when the new time period overlaps with the another set broadcast time period.

16. (currently amended) A program recording method according to claim 15, further comprising: displaying an indication that the step of changing the set broadcast time period to the a-new time period was not carried out along with the desired program set for recording when the step of changing the set broadcast time period is not carried out.

17. (previously presented) A program recording method according to claim 11, wherein the setting step further includes setting the change from the set broadcast time period to the new time period when the predetermined word is included in the character string.

18. (previously presented) A program recording method according to claim 17, further comprising:

displaying a logo indicating that the change from the set broadcast time period to the new time period has been set when the predetermined word is included in the character string.

19. (previously presented) A program recording method according to claim 11, wherein the changing step includes changing the set broadcast time period to the new time period just before the desired program recording starts when the predetermined word is included in the character string.

20. (previously presented) A program recording method according to claim 11, wherein the step of changing the set broadcast time period to the new time period is not carried out when an insufficient recording capacity would exist at the new time period.